

United States Army Now Wants 150 Lieutenants From Civil Life for Service

This Is Chance of Lifetime for Those Who Want Glitter of an Officer's Career--Plenty of Perquisites and Expenses.

BY JOHN ELFRETH WATKINS.

Washington, D. C., August 26.—A title before your name, pre-eminence in the favor of milady fair, a career of fuss and feathers, brass buttons and gold lace, the guarantee of a home and salary, so long as you shall live honorably, and when you die, a free funeral, with a brass band thrown in—these are the things that you get for the price of a few dollars. If you are still enjoying single blessedness and are neither under one-and-twenty nor above one score and seven; if you can stretch up to five feet four in your naked feet, and tip the beam in accordance with your stature; if you can exhibit a chest bellows that has a manly circumference and expansion—why, for aught that you know, you may be one of the 150 lucky fellows upon whom will now be heaped the honors and glories of such a picturesque career.

As a result of the recent increase of that service, the army now finds itself short of over 150 more second lieutenants than West Point can supply. So to fill these vacancies appointments will have to be made from enlisted men in the ranks and from eligible young men in civil life.

On September 5 the final examination for all candidates will be held at the various military posts throughout the country, and if you are a citizen of the United States, answering the requirements specified—also some more in the bargain—now, perhaps, is your chance to add a military handle to your name and to earn a suitable for framing and hanging upon the wall—an engraved commission, signed by the President of the United States, also O. K'd by the Senate thereof.

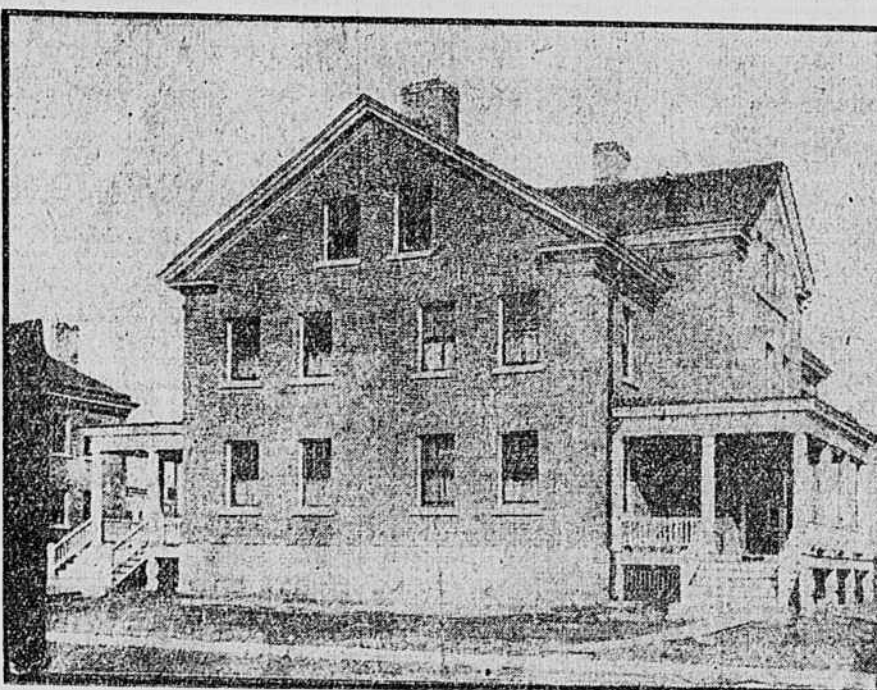
In the filling of these vacancies—according to the law and the prophets—preference over the men in civil life must be given to the soldier in the ranks. If the latter's "fitness for promotion" shall have been determined by competitive examination. But the chances in this exceptional year appear to be that 150 civilians will be needed after the men in the ranks have been ranked. So there now are exceptional opportunities for our young men who have never shouldered a musket or flourished a sabre in the paid service of the U. S. A.

How to Get There.
There are lots of ins and outs to be understood before you can get even so far as the examination room. The first step is the filing of an application with the Adjutant-General of the army at Washington. This done, you are merely an "applicant for designation," and it rests with the War Department whether or not to grant you the status of a "candidate for examination." Your application must state your date of birth, citizenship, marital status and the branch of the service in which you aspire to become an officer—whether in the infantry, cavalry, field or coast artillery. Then, if your statement is satisfactory, you will be authorized to report for examination at some military post as near to your home as the department can arrange.

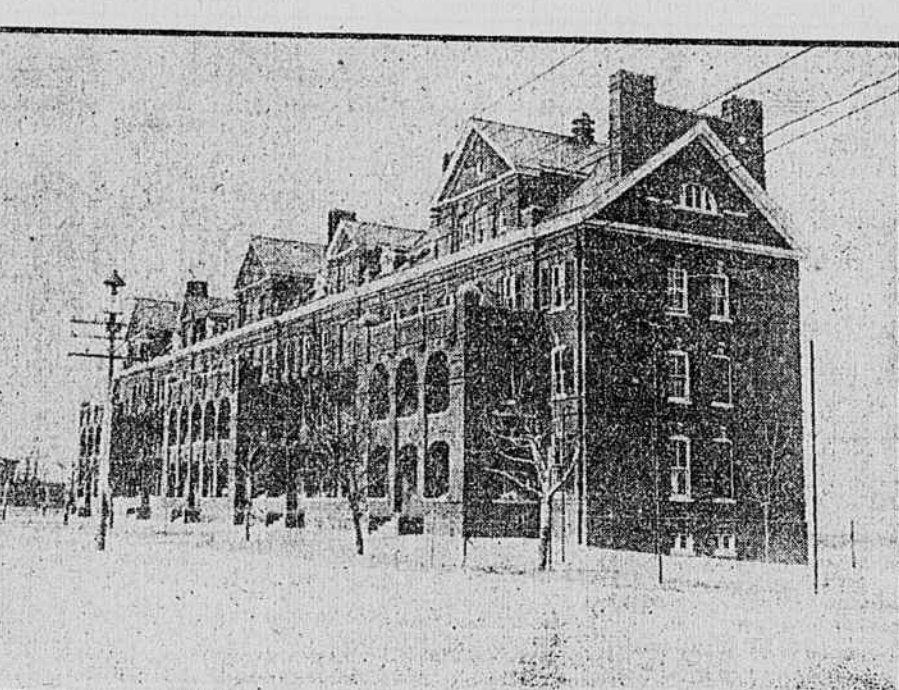
The course of sprouts through which you must now be put will depend upon the diploma which you can show. If you cannot prove yourself a graduate of a first-class university or military college—if you are a mere graduate of the university of experience or the college of hard knocks—you must, before September 5, run the gauntlet of a "preliminary mental examination," differing according to whether you aspire to enter the mobile army or the coast artillery. If you would become an infantry, cavalry or field artillery lieutenant, this preliminary test will include English grammar and orthography, algebra, geometry and trigonometry, geography and history. But if you would enter the coast artillery, the examination in mathematics will be made easier by the addition of calculus, differential and integral. In all cases a showing in mathematics will count you much more than proficiency in the other subjects. If you do not make a general average of 70 you are down and out at your first pitfall.

This ordeal of the preliminary examination will entirely escape if you can prove yourself a graduate of either a "recognized" college or university, or of a college or school that is essentially military and to which an officer of the regular army is detailed as a professor of military science and tactics.

But whatever your educational advantages have been, you must report September 5 at the designated military post, there to be taken in hand by an army board of medical and line of-



Typical married lieutenant's house at army post.



Typical apartment house for bachelor lieutenants, United States Army post.



Second lieutenant in field uniform. From official fashion plate, United States Army.



AWAITING PHYSICAL EXAMINATION



Second lieutenant in field uniform. From official fashion plate, United States Army.

You must measure up to five feet four inches, for the final examination that is to decide your fate.

Searching Physical Test.

First will come a careful physical test to determine whether you are big and strong enough to uphold the honor of the army and fight your nation's battles. In addition to proving up to all of the physical standards required of recruits enlisting in the ranks, you will have to show that your degree of vision is good and that you are not color blind for red, green or violet. In the vision test your eyes must show a degree "less than 20-40," the meaning of which any oculist or optician can readily explain, thus, perhaps, saving you the trouble and expense of taking the final test.

Should you apply for a commission in the mounted service—the cavalry or field artillery—you will be put astride of a nag upon whose back you must trot and canter around a ring while a "supplementary board" of officers takes notes upon your ability to weather the journey.

The physical test is your second pitfall, and unless you escape it, it were futile to pass on to the line officers who await to give you your final mental examination, which, too, will vary according to whether you wish to en-

ter the mobile army or the coast artillery.

If service with the latter is your aim, the examination will include elementary electricity, mechanics and chemistry, and in addition either advanced mathematics, electricity or mechanics, as you may elect; also the Constitution of the United States, the organization of the government and the elements of international law.

But if you choose to become a lieutenant of cavalry, field artillery or infantry, your examination will be entirely different, save in the subjects of Constitution, government and international law. You must qualify in general history, elementary French, German or Spanish, and such of the following "advanced optional subjects" as you may choose: Calculus and analytical geometry, or "a thorough working knowledge of any modern language," such as covered by a four-year course at a university, or "a general knowledge of the English language or English literature," which assumes familiarity with the great authors from Chaucer down through Stevenson.

Before being "designated" for examination by the adjutant-general you must inform him as to which of the optional subjects you wish to be examined upon. All making 85 or over in the whole mental examination will be graded in three lists.

These Will Be Favored.

Every year certain of the big military schools and colleges, having professors from the regular army, designate each an "honorary graduate." Such of these as pass the examination will be given the first commissions, and after them will be favored all graduates of schools and colleges (essentially military) and all young men having had three years' creditable service in some State militia who have passed. The remaining competitors who have made 85 or more will next be appointed, after which, if any lieutenancies still remain, those making between 75 and 85 will be accommodated in the order of their average. Eligible who have never been to military schools or served in the militia will be assigned immediately to posts where they will be "broken in" to tactics and the handling of troops.

So much for the labyrinthine route by which the civilian may win his way to the army. Whether the game is worth the candle is a question for you to look well into. Take first the question of glory. Very little of that will gloss the soldier's career unless he participates in war. The policeman has little chance for fame where all is plevy and virtue, and the fireman earns no glory where everything is fireproof. Nor can the soldier win the bubble reputation in the mouth of the cannon spiked with treaties of arbitration.

That a great war is sure to come to us is the cry of military men, whose pay roll is guaranteed only by this fear, and of politicians representing constituencies largely controlled by armament mongers or other opulent producers of commodities needed for the constant preparation for war.

Future Wars Inevitable.
But against these jingoes are aligned the inventor, who is fast preparing for war that is too terrible to be possible, the economist who is convincing the voter that war is a too expensive relic of barbarism, and the beneficent statesman, who is binding rival powers with treaties of peace and arbitration. As one of our army officers lately complained out, only profitable wars will be "little affairs

not productive of great military reputations."

Another question on which to masticate and ruminate is this: Would at the time, labor and money represented in the education required of civilians passing this examination yield better dividends if invested in a more peaceful career?

Your salary during your first five years as second lieutenant would remain at \$1,700 a year, or \$141.67 per month. At the end of the five years you would receive a 10 per cent. increase, raising the total to \$1,875.00 per year. A year or two later, in the ordinary course of events, you would be promoted to the grade of first lieutenant, drawing \$2,000 during your second five years and \$2,200 during your third five years in this rank, at which you are, under present arrangements, liable to stick for from ten to fifteen years.

Salary Measure in Middle Life.

In other words, twenty years hence, when you are along in your forties or perhaps might be near to your fifties, you will probably be entitled to only \$2,400 a year. Even upon becoming a captain you will get only \$2,400 to begin with, and when you are a major and lieutenant-colonel you can start out with only \$3,000 and \$3,500. If things continue to drift along as now you will be within a few years of your forced retirement when you attain the rank of colonel, with an initial salary of \$4,000. Then you will be retired as a brigadier-general at \$4,500 for the remainder of your life.

It must be added, however, that by the sifting out system of enforced retirements the army hopes to greatly relieve this stagnation, and if this proves a success there will be a better chance for the civilian who now earns a lieutenantancy in his early twenties to become a brigadier on the active list at \$8,000, or even a major-general at \$9,000. Of course, there is even the remote possibility of reaching a lieutenant-generalship at \$11,000. Then there are perquisites to be considered. While on service at a military post, as he is liable to be, the second lieutenant has his shelter, fuel and light furnished absolutely free, also the medical and dental attention of himself and family and, in some cases, even his ice.

If unattached—as he must be upon entering through this civilian examination—he begins post life in bachelor quarters—a two-room and bath apartment, probably in the officers' club building.

But when he marries he is assigned to a "lieutenant's house," which at the modern post—is a semi-detached cottage with three family chambers on the second floor and two servants' bedrooms on the third, besides a snug arrangement of parlor, reception hall, diningroom and kitchen below.

Serving away from a post, he is allowed "commutation for quarters," amounting to \$12 per month per room, with a maximum allowance of two rooms, or \$24 per month, which, when he becomes a first lieutenant, is increased to a three-room maximum, or \$36 per month, and so on up through the grades, as in the case of post houses, which increase in size and elaboration as an officer is promoted.

Perquisites That Help.
And at the same time that he is separated from his post—as when on special duty in Washington, for example—the second lieutenant also receives a monthly allowance for gas bills and coal, which the nearest quartermaster may furnish him at a slight reduction on the commercial rate.

If a mounted officer, owning his horse, he is allowed \$150 a year for his keep—\$200 if he provides two steeds at his own expense. And while he serves in the Philippines or elsewhere outside the United States, except in Porto Rico or Hawaii, he is allowed a 10 per cent. increase in his regular salary.

If he dies in the line of duty his widow will receive a half of his next year's unearned pay, besides a service pension of from \$12 to \$13 per month as long as she lives. And wherever he dies he will be entitled to a free funeral, with a full military escort, a band of guns and a parade thrown in. But, despite these various perquisites, the officer who has neither a "nest egg" of his own nor a rich spouse to help pay the bills soon faces the realization that the social standards of living are more extravagant at army posts than in private life. Even the bachelor subaltern must make constant return for the constant round of entertainment which he receives at the post club. Uniforms are a considerable drain upon his purse, for he has to maintain a complete civilian outfit in addition. Then the repeated move from post to post to which officers are subjected, prove to be a tax upon their purses, for, as the old adage has it, "three moves are as bad as a fire."

The married officer at frontier posts or upon foreign duty finds no proper schools for his children, who must be placed in boarding schools at a cost of from \$700 to \$1,000 apiece per annum.

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of Mrs. D. James Coleman this week on her return from New York where she has been attending the summer session of the Columbia University.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Strother are members of a house party at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Lasser, at Yorktown, this week. Miss Ruth Glenville, who had been spending some time with Mrs. Strother, left the first of the week for her home in Baltimore.

Mrs. Franklin Duncan entertained several days ago in compliment to her house guest, Miss Margaret Wells, and Annie May Long, of Louisiana, who left for home this week. Her guests included, besides the guests of honor, the members of the Senior Five Hundred Club and Mesdames, J. R. Turner, S. Russell-Smith, Charles Walte and Henry Blake of North Carolina. Miss Long, who has been with Mrs. Duncan since the early summer, has been the recipient of much social attention, and many delightful affairs have been given in her honor.

Master Jim Hudson entertained a number of his little friends on Tuesday afternoon, at the residence of his great-grandfather, Colonel Slaughter Bradford, on Jameson's Hill, the occasion being his sixth birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie Grove were members of a week-end house party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bell, at Madison Run. Others in the party, which was in the nature of a family reunion, were Mr. and Mrs. C. Calvin Bell, and Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Bell, of Washington; Mr. and Mrs. Graham Winn, and Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Matthews, of Madison.

Winchester Social News

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Winchester, Va., August 26.—Mrs. Daisy Haskell, of Philadelphia, Pa., who is passing the summer at Capon Springs, W. Va., has authorized the announcement of her engagement to Cornelius Marshall Baldwin, of Winchester, a son of Dr. Cornelius Baldwin, of this city. The wedding is to take place in the fall. Mrs. Haskell is a sister of Mrs. Logan T. Fay, of Winchester.

Dr. and Mrs. Hugh G. Russell, who have been spending the past month at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Russell, in Winchester, returned to Richmond on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Roddey and children left a few days ago for their home in Rock Hill, S. C., after spending several months with Mrs. Roddey's mother, Mrs. Marshall Willis, in Winchester.

Rev. and Mrs. James Grammer have returned to Winchester after visiting friends at Smithfield, W. Va.

Mrs. C. E. Hoover left Winchester several days ago to visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Moore at Fairfield, Pa.

Mrs. Ambrose Timberlake, of Washington, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. William L. Smith, in Winchester, has returned home.

Mrs. J. C. Eastman left Winchester recently to spend several weeks at Cape May, N. J.

Mrs. Patrick Connelly, of Knoxville, Tenn., is visiting Mrs. Robert A. Kennedy at her home in Winchester.

Frank J. McCarthy, of Richmond, has been with friends in Winchester and vicinity this week.

Howard S. Nulton came several days ago from Richmond to visit his mother, Mrs. Virginia Nulton, at her home in Winchester.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kremer, of Washington, are visiting relatives in Winchester.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stine and her daughter, Mrs. Beattie McCann, left Winchester several days ago on a visit to friends in Roanoke.

Mrs. Clara McVicar Whisen, of Newport News, is visiting relatives in Winchester.

Miss Alma Colezaker, of Washington, is visiting Miss Julia Clowe at her home in Winchester.

Miss Bishop came to this week from New York to visit friends in Winchester.

Mrs. Ida V. Willis and her daughter, Miss Katharine C. Willis, have returned to Harrisonburg after visiting relatives in Winchester.

Mrs. and Mrs. P. H. Mayo, of Richmond, are visiting friends at the Berryville Hotel Show this week in their private boxes.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Leafe, of New York, are spending the last of the week with relatives in Winchester.

Mr. and Mrs. Silas Robinson, who have been visiting relatives in Winchester and vicinity, have returned to their home in Danville.

Miss Kinley McMillan, of McKeen, Pa., and Miss E. V. Fitzgibbon, of Winchester, left recently for the home of Miss Fitzgibbon at Culpeper.

Miss Katharine Keating, of Winchester, has been spending the past week with relatives in Harrisonburg.

Houston Social News

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Houston, Va., August 26.—Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Haskins entertained at Springwood on Tuesday afternoon, the occasion being a dinner in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John Bouldin, of Newport News. Those present, among others, were Mr. and Mrs. John Bouldin, Mrs. Flournoy Bouldin and Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Roessler.

Dr. E. M. Roessler, of Richmond, is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Watkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Gran Craddock were the chaperons of a jolly strawdole on Tuesday evening, given by the young people of Houston. The objective point was Springwood, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Haskins, where a picnic lunch was served.

Mrs. Smith Brockenborough, of Richmond, is visiting at the home Mrs. Tom Smith.

H. H. Hanks and Miss Katherine Hanks left on Monday for Franklin county to visit Mr. Hanks's sister.

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Best Quality, Correct Styles, Artistic Workmanship, Perfect Fit.

First come, best served. you for past favors, and continuance of same, I am, Yours respectfully,

Culpeper Social News

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Culpeper, Va., August 26.—Mrs. Albert Simms, of Raleigh, N. C., are the guests of their cousin, Mrs. Pamela Brown, at The Grange, this county, and will also visit friends in Madison and elsewhere in Culpeper before returning home.

Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews and Ruth Schofield returned this week from a delightful visit to the Misses Jackson at Keawick. Robert Matthews, at Keawick, returned this week from a visit to Atlantic City for the past ten days, also returned this week.

The Billiken Club was entertained on Friday morning by Miss Fannie Kowall at Corner View, her home near Culpeper.

The Wednesday morning bridge met this week with Mrs. William A. Bickert, at her home on Jameson's Hill. Those playing were Mesdames Louis, Wise Jennings, Mercer Jennings, Clyde Lewis, Sam Booker, Earle Whitehouse, Misses Jaqueline Ware, Mary English, and Eyrd Law. The prize of dainty Priscilla work-bag was won by Miss Ware.

Miss Sadie Armstrong was a guest



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